

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investors Group wins 2003 Imagine Mutual Fund Community Investment Award

Toronto, Ontario (3 December 2003) – Announced tonight at the Canadian Investment Awards Gala in Toronto, Investors Group is recognized by Imagine for its outstanding contribution to Canadian communities through its community investment activities. This is the second consecutive year Investors Group has received this award from Imagine, a national, business-led initiative that promotes corporate citizenship and community involvement.

The Imagine Mutual Fund Community Investment Award was launched in 1997 to recognize the corporate citizenship activities of Canadian mutual fund companies. The criteria for this award includes an evaluation of: a) the company's charitable giving as a percentage of pre-tax profit; b) the use of a wide spectrum of the company's resources to support the community (i.e. employee volunteers, in-kind donations, sponsorship); and c) the degree to which the company works in partnership with charities and non-profits to find creative sustainable solutions to community needs.

“One of the great features of **Investors Group's** community involvement program is that it has such a broad reach, working with people and organizations at both a local and national level,” says Kelly Gray, Managing Director of RBC Capital Markets and Chair of the 2003 jury for this award. “Community involvement is part of the fabric of their organization. Being committed to and supporting employee volunteerism, gift matching, providing resources and community investment raises the bar for others in the Mutual Fund community.”

Investors Group's community investment activities include four key program areas:

- 1. Region Office Community Relations Program:** develops localized and community-relevant activities important to Investor Group's 63 Regional offices.
- 2. Corporate Responsibility Program:** develops partnerships with national organizations and provides funding for 5 national initiatives:
 - a. Money & Youth (in partnership with the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education);
 - b. Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund (in partnership with AthletesCAN);
 - c. Investors Group Community Coaching Conferences (in partnership with the Coaching Association of Canada);
 - d. Food for Thought campaign (in partnership with the Canadian Association of Food Banks);
 - e. and the Winnipeg Community Support Program.
- 3. The Community Service Support Program:** provides grants to the charitable organizations in which the company's employees and Consultants are actively engaged as volunteers.
- 4. The Matching Gift Program:** provides matching grants for any charitable donation made by the company's employees and Consultants up to \$500 per annum.

An Imagine Caring Company since 1990, Investors Group consistently donates a minimum of 1% of the company's pre-tax profit to charity. In 2002, they gave \$4.3 million to the voluntary sector. They also develop specific programs to encourage their 4000 employees and consultants to give back to the community through volunteerism and personal giving.

The jury for this year's Mutual Fund Community Investment Award was composed of senior leaders from the investment sector. Chaired by Kelly Gray, Managing Director, RBC Capital Markets, the jury included Marilyn de Mara, Partner, KPMG; Tessa Wilmott, Executive Editor, Investment Executive; Sabine Steinbrecher, Chief Development Officer, The Learning Library and Chris Pinney, Director, Imagine, and Vice-President Corporate Citizenship of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy.

Imagine, an initiative of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, is a national business-led program that strengthens Canadian communities by encouraging and promoting corporate citizenship and community investment. Imagine sets leadership benchmarks for corporate citizenship and builds capacity for companies to become more actively engaged in their communities. The Imagine 1% Commitment and its Caring Company program are internationally recognized and a standard of excellence that more than 560 Canadian companies adhere to.

For more information, please visit www.imagine.ca or contact:

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